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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/491,949	01/26/2000	Salim G Kara	45923-P004CP1C1-09908772	9277

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EXAMINER

WOO, RICHARD SUKYOON

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/491,949

Applicant(s)

KARA, SALIM G

Examiner

Richard Woo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 17-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11-16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

- 1) The applicant's amendment filed on February 14, 2003 has been entered. The cancellation of claims 20-36 has been acknowledged and entered.
- 2) The indicated allowability of claims 1-19 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Block (US 6,010,156). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow later.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

- 3) The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 4) Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In Claim 7, line 2, the recitation of "said postage storage device" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

- 5) The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application

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by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6) Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Block (US 6,010,156).

As for Claim 1, Block discloses a system comprising:

a general purpose processor based system (202) having a postage printing application program (see Fig. 2);

a general purpose printer (206) coupled to the general purpose computer (col. 4, lines 42-57; see Fig. 2);

a sheet (see Figs. 1, 3A) having a plurality of transfer sections (107) thereon, wherein the postage printing application controls the computer and the printer to substantially simultaneously print a plurality of postage meter stamps on the sheet (Inherently, the sheet is continuously fed into the printer to enable the printer to substantially simultaneously print a plurality of postage meter stamps upon the multiple requests from the computer. See col. 3, lines 27-45 for the various printing format for user's interest).

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As for Claim 2, Block further discloses the system, wherein a first postage meter stamp of the plurality of postage meter stamp is printed on a first transfer section of the plurality of transfer sections and a second postage meter stamp of the plurality of postage meter stamp is printed on a second transfer section of the plurality of transfer sections (see Fig. 1).

As for Claim 3, Block further discloses the system, wherein at least one of the postage meter stamps includes a date by which an item bearing the postage meter stamp must be posted (see col. 4, line 58 – col. 5, line 5).

As for Claim 4, Block further discloses the system, wherein at least one of the postage meter stamps includes a location from which an item bearing the postage meter stamp is to be posted (see Id.).

As for Claim 5, Block further discloses the system, wherein at least one of the stamps includes a sender's ZIP code (see Fig. 3A).

As for Claim 6, Block further discloses the system, wherein at least one of the stamps includes a recipient ZIP code (see Id.).

As for Claim 8, Block further discloses the system including:

a postage storage device coupled to the general purpose processor based system having postage value credit stored therein, wherein the computer retrieves an amount of postage from the storage device (see col. 4, lines 31-42).

As for Claim 9, Block further discloses the system, wherein at least one of the stamps includes a unique identification of the postage storage device (see Fig. 3A and col. 4, line 58- col. 5, line 5).

As for Claim 10, Block further discloses the system, wherein the unique ID of the postage storage device is a serial number (see Fig. 3A).

As for Claim 17, Block further discloses the system, wherein each postage meter stamp includes a graphical security interface (see the barcode in Fig. 3A).

As for Claim 18, Block further discloses the system, wherein the GSI is a 2-D barcode (see Id.).

As for Claim 19, Block further discloses the system, wherein at least one of the stamps is printed independent of the creation of a mail piece to be posted using the at least one postage meter stamp (see Figs. 1-3A, 4).

Conclusion

7) The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6,327,042 is cited to show a mail processing system comprising: a simple word processor system constituted by a monitor, a keyboard, a central unit, and a printer and fold-inserter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Woo whose telephone number is 571-272-6813. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM -5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on 571-272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Richard Woo
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3639
May 13, 2005